

Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division 2010 Justice Systems Sub-Committee State Budget Briefing

The mission of the Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division (HSEMD) is to lead, coordinate and support homeland security and emergency management functions in order to establish sustainable communities and ensure economic opportunities for Iowa and its citizens.

HSEMD is guided by three goals that define the division's commitment to prevention, protection, response, and recovery.

Goal 1: Ensure that Iowa is prepared for disasters and terrorist attacks.

Goal 2: Minimize the impact, loss of life, loss of property and suffering caused by disasters and terrorist attacks.

Goal 3: Ensure that the statewide homeland security and emergency management team provides a world-class service to the state of Iowa that meets the needs of its citizens.

HSEMD's Accomplishments

In FY 2008, HSEMD coordinated the response and ongoing recovery efforts of five separate Presidentially-declared major disasters. The last of these began with the Parkersburg tornado and continued with widespread flooding that resulted in 84 counties being eligible for federal Public Assistance and 78 counties being eligible for federal Individual Assistance. For the Public Assistance Program, which HSEMD administers, it is anticipated that an excess of **\$1 billion will be processed by the division for more than 10,000 projects** and approximately 1,100 applicants.

In FY 2008, HSEMD provided training to 900 responders on a variety of topics to help them deal with a wide array of hazards, including terrorism response and emergency planning for special needs populations. **HSEMD was involved in the conduct and planning of 74 exercises with nearly 8,600 participants.** These exercises covered topics ranging from pandemic influenza to mass casualty response, and included other government agencies and private sector and non-governmental entities.

All 99 counties now have in place wireless E911 technology that allows emergency call taking personnel the ability to pinpoint a wireless caller's precise location. **HSEMD has worked with wireless service providers and public safety agencies in the advancement of this technology** that enables first responders to be dispatched to emergency situations even if the caller is not able to provide their location.

HSEMD has ensured Iowa is among the leading states in the nation in compliance with and implementation of the National Incident Management System (NIMS). Ninety percent of Iowa's city and county response organizations are now compliant with the NIMS training, which improves response operations through the use of standard procedures and preparedness measures. **NIMS compliance also makes our state and local governments eligible to receive additional federal grant funding.**

HSEMD has implemented many efficiency steps, including integrating division financial management with the Department of Public Defense, relocating to Camp Dodge, filling only essential vacated positions, and reducing supervisory positions.

HSEMD's Economic Impact on Local Communities

HSEMD distributed in excess of \$9.5 million in federal funding to local communities and governments to fund emergency planning, operations training, and for first responder equipment in the last year. These funds are used to enhance local responders' capabilities and capacities and are derived from several federal grant programs which require either a state or local funding match. **For every dollar the state contributed, \$5.76 in federal dollars was received.**

HSEMD is responsible for administering the FEMA Public Assistance Program, which provides funding to political subdivisions and eligible non-profit agencies. **In FY 2008, the State of Iowa received \$48.3 million in grant funds that was matched by state funds in the amount of \$3.8 million. For every dollar the state contributed, \$12.71 federal dollars were received.** For the Floods of 2008, the anticipated amount of federal Public Assistance aid is expected to exceed \$1 billion. As of February 9, 2009, more than \$565 million had been obligated for these projects.

FEMA hazard mitigation grant dollars fund buyouts of flood-prone properties and other initiatives. **HSEMD's work has made Iowa one of only nine states to have a FEMA-approved Enhanced State Mitigation Plan,** making the State eligible to receive increased Hazard Mitigation Grant Program funds. Without an Enhanced Plan, Iowa would qualify to receive only 15 percent of the total estimated disaster assistance in a federally-declared event. Because Iowa has an enhanced plan, the State will receive 20 percent of the total estimated disaster assistance. **For the spring 2008 federally-declared disaster for tornadoes and flooding, Iowa will qualify for an estimated \$250 million, which is \$62.5 million more than it would have qualified for had the Enhanced Plan not been approved.** This funding will be used to help mitigate the effects of future disasters on our citizens.

In FY 2008, Iowa received \$1.1 million in hazard mitigation project funding from prior disasters. These funds require a state and local match. **In FY 2008, the State of Iowa contributed \$183,576 to this match. For every dollar the State contributed, \$5.99 federal dollars were received.**

2010 Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division Justice Committee Funding Requests

Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division	2010 Request	2010 Governor's Recommendation	Federal Match	2008 Appropriation	Percentage Decrease from 2008
Provides for HSEMD management and operations funding. This funding is used to manage risks and hazards with local and federal entities through preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation activities.	\$2,293,314	\$2,068,895	\$2,070,580	\$2,271,581	9.9%

Impacts of Decreased Funding to HSEMD

Federal Match – In Iowa emergency management at the state and local level is supported through a match of federal monies with state or local dollars. The primary federal program that provides this support is the Emergency Management Performance Grant program. This program provides funds to both state and local emergency management programs. The good news with this program is that it has seen increases in funding levels for the past few years and it appears that this trend is going to continue. The challenge with this increased funding is to find non-federal monies to address the 50/50 match requirements of the program. At the state level, HSEMD has maximized every available dollar to account for the match. **With the proposed budget reductions, HSEMD will continue to maximize every available non-federal dollar for match purposes but will be faced with the prospect of having to return federal monies the division will not be able to match.** This same problem exists with local emergency management budgets.

Staffing Impacts – HSEMD is a personnel-driven agency. Approximately 55 percent of our operating budget goes towards personnel costs to support HSEMD's mission. Thus we can only do a limited amount of non-personnel related budget reductions. With the proposed budget reductions we will be required to take a very serious look at a reduction in workforce. This becomes problematic as the union contract specifies that if we reduce the workforce we must first reduce our contracted services employees. Most of these employees can be found within our disaster recovery programs. **A reduction in workforce will directly impact HSEMD's ability to deliver disaster recovery funds to local and state governments.** The division has explored the possibility of moving existing FTE personnel to support disaster recovery work but we recognize this **creates additional concerns about our ability to maintain existing federal funding levels within the programs we administer.** Most importantly, **with severe weather season just around the corner, it would adversely impact HSEMD's ability to effectively manage the response to the next disaster.**